

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT 1. Transferal of Former Nationalist Troops
from Szechuan
2. Guerrilla Activity, Szechuan

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1. Former Nationalist troops in Szechuan who defected to the Communists and who have retained their former Nationalist leaders number 300,000, while the Chinese Communist armies under LIU Po-ch'eng (劉伯承) and HO Lung (何龍) amount to fewer than 150,000. In order to prevent these former Nationalist troops from becoming a menace to his forces, LIU Po-ch'eng has reorganized them or sent them to other parts of China. Those units reorganized include the commands of TENG Shih-hou, LIU Wen-hui and the late P'AN Wen-hua. There were the following transfers:

- a. Troops numbering 150,000 under LO Kuang-wen (羅廣文) were ordered to Soochow (120-37, 31-18) in Kiangsu and to Ch'angchou (119-27, 32-24) in Chekiang.* However, because of desertions which included two division commanders, only one-half that number reached its ultimate destination.
- b. Troops numbering 30,000 under the command of KUO Ju-kui (郭汝瑰) were ordered to Ich'ang (111-17, 30-42) and Shashih (112-17, 30-16) in Hupeh. KUO in turn was appointed to a military office in southern Szechuan. While the troops were passing through Luhsien (105-23, 28-53) there was a mutiny, and only 10,000 men reached Hupeh.
- c. FAN Shao-ts'eng (范紹增), commander of a full army of natives of Szechuan, concentrated in Wanhsien (108-24, 30-49) for training, received orders to transfer to Hankow. LO Ch'un-tan (羅君彤), the vice-commander of the army, resigned, giving poor health as his reason. A division commander, LIAO K'ai-hsiao (廖開孝), departed with a large number of troops which he formed into a guerrilla force. FAN, a member of the P'ao Ko Hui (Elder Brother Society), after failing in an attempt to commit suicide, moved to Hankow with the force of 8,000 men which remained. FAN and his troops are now en route to Homan.

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25X1A

2. In March 1950 LIU Po-ch'eng and HO Lung began a military campaign to destroy the Szechuan guerrillas. As this was not successful, it was supplemented by a policy of appeasement, infiltration and division. For this purpose, former Kuomintang military officers, such as TSENG Ch'ing-ch'u (曾晴初), and Kuomintang intelligence officers, such as LO Kuo-hsi (羅國熙) were utilized. The Communists had some success through this second method and suppressed over 25 guerrilla groups, some of which are described below:

- a. A force of 2,000 guerrillas led by HUANG Kuang-hui (黃光輝), a 35-year-old member of the Young China Party, and by KUO Pao-chih (郭保之) occupied Tai (103-31, 30-36) hsien for a short time, thereby threatening Chungking, Wenchiang and Chengtu.** A division sent by HO Lung failed to suppress this unit, but in June 1950 the guerrillas suffered a serious defeat; HUANG was captured and later executed in Chengtu.
- b. LI Tse-chih (李澤之), also known as "Smallpox" LI, 51-year-old member of the P'ao Ko Hui, led a guerrilla group active in Hsinching (103-49, 30-25). This force destroyed Hsinching airfield and regularly attacked Communist forces traveling on the Szechuan-Silkang highway. In July 1950 LI was captured and later executed in Chengtu.
- c. A former Nationalist hsien magistrate named T'IO commanded guerrillas operating in Yuyang (103-46, 28-48) and Hsiushan (103-00, 28-25). He later moved his forces to western Honan, where it was suppressed by two Communist divisions. T'IO was captured in August and is now in Chungking for trial.
- d. A guerrilla force commanded by LIU Shu-ch'eng (劉樹成)** and MAO Yin-chou (毛銀洲) operated in the mountainous Leipo (103-36, 28-18)-Mapien (103-12, 28-46) area. Both leaders were captured by the Communists, and a member of the Young China Party, CH'ING Ch'eng-liah (青成烈), became leader. However, guerrilla headquarters was surrounded and CH'ING captured and imprisoned in Chengtu.

3. Guerrilla groups are active in the following areas of Szechuan:

- a. In the Leipo-Mapien area (see 2.d. above). After the capture of CH'ING Ch'eng-liah, leadership of these guerrillas passed to HSIEN Ch'ung-chieh, a native of the area and a graduate of the Tokyo Military Academy. The force numbers 6,000 men, most of whom are armed with rifles; however, lack of ammunition compels them to fight with knives and spears.
- b. In the Sungp'an (103-37, 32-39)-Hachsien (103-52, 31-42) area. These guerrillas are under the joint command of LIU Chi-an (劉吉安), a senior member of the P'ao Ko Hui, and HSIA Ch'i-feng (夏基風)**, a member of the Young China Party. The group has been augmented by guerrillas under the leadership of the hsien magistrate, HO Pen-ch'u (何本初), and now totals almost 10,000 men. Because of the difficult terrain, a Communist division sent to suppress them was forced to retire, and

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3

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instead a large force has been stationed in Kuanghsien (103-37, 31-00) to prevent attacks by the guerrillas on Chengtu.

- c. In the Ch'unglai (103-29, 30-25)-Tai (103-31, 30-36) area. At the death of HUANG Kiang-hui (see 2.a. above), KUO Pao-chih assumed leadership of these guerrillas and built up the force to 4,000 men. The mountainous terrain affords a convenient base for attacks on the Communists along the highways.
- d. In the Jenschou (104-08, 30-01)-Chienyang (104-33, 30-24) area. CHOU Jui-lin (周瑞林), a native of Jenschou and former military commander under ex-governor of Szechuan LIU Hsiang (劉湘), leads a strong and well-organized force of unknown size.

- 4. Of the 140 hsien in Szechuan, only 80 are governed by Communist magistrates. Although some threats to Communist control have been removed by reorganization and transfer of former Nationalist troops to other areas, and by the guerrilla suppression campaign, areas under guerrilla control are in fact increasing. The Communists cannot control mountainous and border areas, which are in a state of anarchy. That guerrilla strength should be increasing in the face of an active policy of suppression by the Communists is due to the strong anti-Communist stand and efficient organization of secret societies and the Young China Party in Szechuan.

* [] from a different source, also reports the transfer of troops under the command of LO Kuang-wen to Chekiang.

** [] For an earlier report of the activities of these men and guerrilla groups, []

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